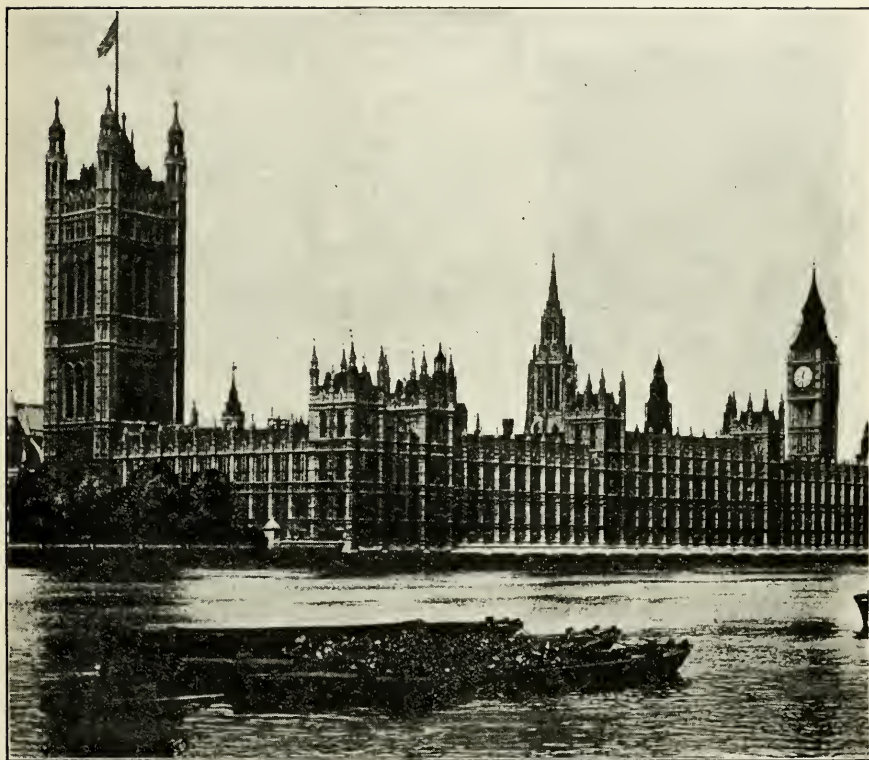


THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840



The Houses of Parliament

“ We believe that governments were instituted of God . . . ”

(See article page 306)

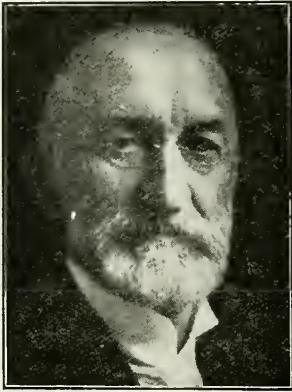
FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS OF THE CHURCH

By PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

IN thinking seriously of the economic condition of the world, I am convinced without doubt, that a revelation in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, known as the Word of Wisdom, given by the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, to the Prophet Joseph Smith over one hundred years ago, would solve the economic problems not only of our country but of every other country, if it were obeyed by the people of the world.

This Word of Wisdom teaches the Latter-day Saints to refrain from the use of tea, coffee, tobacco and liquor, and part of it reads as follows:



PRESIDENT GRANT

His testimony was heard over a national network.

To be sent greeting : not by commandment or constraint, but by revelation and the word of wisdom, showing forth the order and will of God in the temporal salvation of all saints in the last days—

Behold, verily, thus saith the Lord unto you : In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you, and forewarn you, by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation—

And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones ;

And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures ;

And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.

And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them. Amen.

Another thing that is needed is to maintain the Constitution of our country, and I now have pleasure in reading a Declaration by Joseph Smith regarding the Constitution :

The Constitution of the United States is a glorious standard ; it is founded in the wisdom of God. It is a heavenly banner ; it is to all those who are privileged with the sweets of liberty, like the cooling shades and refreshing waters of a great rock in a weary and thirsty land. It is like a great tree under whose branches men from every clime can be shielded from the burning rays of the sun.

I read from a declaration of belief regarding governments and laws in general, adopted by unanimous vote of a general assembly of the Church over one hundred years ago :

We believe that governments were instituted of God for the benefit of man ; and that he holds men accountable for their acts in relation to them, both in making laws and administering them, for the good and safety of society.

We believe that no government can exist in peace, except such laws

are framed and held inviolate as will secure to each individual the free exercise of conscience, the right and control of property, and the protection of life.

We do not believe it just to mingle religious influence with civil government, whereby one religious society is fostered and another proscribed in its spiritual privileges, and the individual rights of its members, as citizens, denied.

Over the Air

ALTHOUGH saints in Britain have not had the privilege of seeing President Grant since he completed his work as president of European and British Mission in December, 1906, today it is not impossible to hear his voice, though he speaks 7,000 miles distant in the Great Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. This remarkable phenomenon has been brought about through the invention of radio and through the continued courtesy extended *gratis* to the Church by America's large broadcasting networks.

At the 106th Annual Conference of the Church in the Tabernacle April 5, sermons by President Grant, President J. Reuben Clark Jr. and President David O. McKay were relayed over about seventy stations in Canada and America on the Columbia "Church of the Air" programme (*Star*, April 23). The *Star* brings to its readers this week the remarks of President Grant which were heard by millions of radio listeners. Addresses by President Clark and President McKay will appear in subsequent numbers.

The leading officials of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have been accused of exercising unrighteous dominion, because of the Priesthood they hold. Joseph Smith was sentenced by a court martial to be shot the following morning, and General Alexander W. Doniphan refused to carry out the order of his commanding general, and said that it was cold-blooded murder. This frightened the general in command of the mob, who were expelling our people from the State of Missouri; so they imprisoned the Prophet and others in Liberty Jail, and while there he received from the Lord one of the most wonderful revelations ever given to our people, regarding the exercise of the Priesthood, and I have pleasure in quoting part of it:

We have learned by sad experience that it is the nature and disposition of almost all men, as soon as they get a little authority, as they suppose, they will immediately begin to exercise unrighteous dominion.

Hence many are called, but few are chosen.

No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the priesthood, only by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned;

By kindness, and pure knowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the soul without hypocrisy, and without guile—

Reproving betimes with sharpness, when moved upon by the Holy Ghost; and then showing forth afterwards an increase of love toward him whom thou hast reproved, lest he esteem thee to be his enemy;

That he may know that thy faithfulness is stronger than the cords of death.

Let thy bowels also be full of charity towards all men, and to the household

of faith, and let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God; and the doctrine of the priesthood shall distil upon thy soul as the dews from heaven.

The Holy Ghost shall be thy constant companion, and thy scepter an

unchanging scepter of righteousness and truth; and thy dominion shall be an everlasting dominion, and without compulsory means it shall flow unto thee forever and ever.

I quote the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth articles of faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:

Westminster

PRESIDENT GRANT quotes: "We believe that governments were instituted of God for the benefit of man. . ."

The *Star* cover picture depicts the New Palace of Westminster, home of the Mother of Parliaments. Mirrored in the Thames—which has been called the "stream of history"—from its commanding position on the embankment, this architecturally intricate edifice, built 100 years ago, is symbolical of British government — stable, enduring and an ensign of world democracy.

We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.

We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honouring, and sustaining the law.

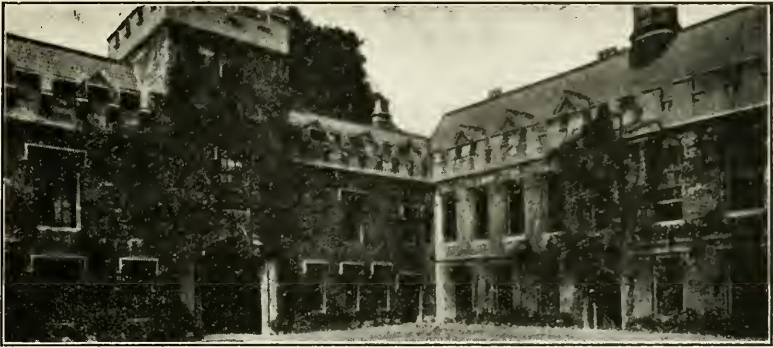
We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul: We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy we seek after these things.

I close my remarks by bearing my testimony to the world that I know, as I know that I live, that God lives, that Jesus Christ is His Son, the Redeemer of the world, who came to

the earth with a divinely appointed mission to die on the cross for the sins of mankind. And I bear my testimony that I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of the true and the living God.

A RELIGION FOR YOUTH

I WISH that it were possible for us to teach our youth that all the enduring satisfactions they may ever hope for, all the real joys and pleasures of life, are to be had in pursuance of and not in contravention of Gospel principles. . . . I wish they could know the warmth of Church companionship. I wish they could feel the spirit that emanates from on high to mellow our hearts, to make us truly love one another and love God. I wish their ears could be attuned to hear the lovely things of truth, as the ears of these musicians hear the melodies and the sounds that some of us cannot hear. If they could be made to realize that these great blessings are to be had through compliance with the laws of God, through application, activity, diligence and loyalty, I am persuaded that many more would now be amenable to the influence of our organizations, many more would derive the joy and satisfactions which relatively few of us enjoy.—ELDER STEPHEN L. RICHARDS.



Lincoln College at Oxford

OXFORD UNIVERSITY HEARS MORMONISM

No other existing university is steeped in more tradition, none has a more lustrous list of graduates than has Oxford. Of Oxford's 21 colleges, none preserves its original character better than does Lincoln. Oxford's history goes back centuries before its incorporation by Queen Elizabeth in 1571, and Lincoln College's hall traces its erection to 1436.

At Oxford University, and particularly at Lincoln College, students are learning of the message of Mormonism. This is all coming about through the efforts of Chauncy D. Harris, a Latter-day Saint Rhodes Scholar from Provo, Utah, where he previously studied at Brigham Young University. Elder Harris, who is a member of Oxford's lacrosse team which this year defeated Cambridge, has given several talks on Mormonism before student groups at Oxford, and recently Lincoln College's magazine published an article by him entitled "The Mormons."

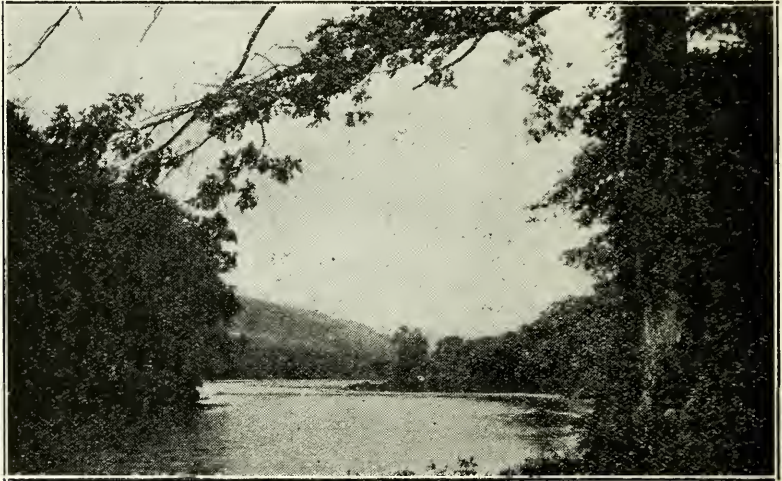
Some extracts from the article, which extended over four pages of the periodical, read: "So strict is the moral code of the Mormons that it is considered a vice to smoke tobacco or to drink alcoholic liquors. Members of the Church are even advised against the use of tea and coffee. . . In the Church there are no paid ministers. The head of each ward (as the parishes are called) is a bishop. He is aided by two counsellors. These three men are taken from the lay members of the community and take care of their ecclesiastical duties while carrying on their own professions. . . Recreation is actively fostered. Most chapels have connected amusement halls where dances are frequently held. . . . Quite a number of the young fellows of 18-21 years of age go on missions for about two years, after which they continue on to a university or go into a trade. They do not become professional ministers since there is no such body in the Mormon Church. During their mission they either support themselves or are supported by their parents, since they receive no pay or expense money from the Church, which does, however, select the missionaries and supervise their work. . . . There are several thousand Church members in Europe, including quite a number in Britain. There are, in fact, two branches of the Church in London."

Elder Harris, who is a student at Lincoln, was recently honoured with a fellowship in Britain's Royal Geographic Society. (*Star*, April 16). He is also president of Oxford's Herbertson Society, which arranges for visits of noted lecturers to the University.

A COMMISSION FROM ON HIGH

THERE was no fanfare of trumpets. There was no purple nor ermine, and there wasn't a multitude to cheer. No crown or coronet was placed upon a brow nor was a sceptre passed on. But 107 years ago May 15 two men received a commission with greater import and authority than had been bestowed upon mankind for centuries.

The setting of this glorious event was in a woodland, where Joseph Smith, a 23-year-old farmer, and Oliver Cowdery, a young country school teacher, had repaired to humbly inquire of the Lord regarding a question on baptism which had arisen in the course of translation of the Book of Mormon. While thus engaged in supplication in the woods, not far from the Susquehanna River in eastern United States, there appeared to them a heaven-



THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER.

Near its shaded banks, the Priesthood was restored.

ly messenger. He conferred upon their heads this authority from on high. The commission which they received was greater than any king or potentate could inherit, greater than wealth and influence could buy and more far-reaching than political power could ever attain. It came from heaven. It was the very Priesthood of God, and the heavenly messenger who conferred it was John the Baptist, he who preached in the wilderness of Judea, who baptized the Master in Jordan and who was beheaded at the whim of the wicked Herodias. The Baptist, when he appeared to Joseph and Oliver, however, was a resurrected being. He laid his hands upon their heads and restored the Priesthood which had been taken from the earth during the long night of apostasy and departure from the pure principles and ordinances which our Lord had taught.

In bestowing the Priesthood upon Joseph and Oliver, John

brought to mankind once again the divine deputation to preach, teach and baptize in the name of Jesus Christ. This is absolutely necessary in the true Church of the Master. Any attempt to perform ordinances in His name without delegation would nullify itself.

Men must be called by those having authority. That was the mission of John 107 years ago.

Furthermore, John's visitation to the Prophet and Oliver Cowdery ushered in what was to again be a great democracy and brotherhood among men. The ministry of the Church is open to all who are worthy. The man who carries a dinner pail to work may occupy the same office and calling as his employer.

The Baptist reintroduced the proper mode of baptism—by immersion by those having authority. Under his direction Joseph baptized Oliver and then Oliver baptized the Prophet.

John told them that a higher Priesthood, one embracing the power of laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, would come to them later. And so it did—not long after on the banks of the Susquehanna River. This higher Priesthood, the Melchizedek, was conferred by three heavenly personages, Peter, James and John.

Thus is May 15, 1829 a memorable date. Once again the heavens were opened and the power to act in the authority of God in the administration of the Gospel was restored upon earth. It was the beginning of a binding brotherhood among men which continues today to grow in numbers and increase in strength.—
WENDELL J. ASHTON.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT JOSEPH F. MERRILL, President Joseph J. Cannon and Sister Emily T. Merrill, consulting adviser of women's auxiliaries in the European Mission, were speakers at the evening session of Nottingham District Conference in Greyfriar's Hall, Nottingham Sunday, May 3. District President Samuel W. Pears conducted, and 197 persons attended.

President Merrill spoke particularly to members of the Church. He said that salvation must necessarily be based on our obedience to the commandments of the Lord. The Lord is just and He will give other places to those who do not obey His commandments, the terrestrial or telestial, but the highest glory—celestial—is for those only who accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ and then in humility and love of one another continue to live His commandments.

President Cannon referred to a conversation he had had with two newspaper men, in which they had said that the best description of life

was the word "futility." He had replied that he had known life many years and in many lands and it had always been thrilling, beautiful and significant. "This", he said, "is the philosophy of the Gospel."

The story of how she went to Utah and found true Mormonism—much different from the stories she had heard about it—and how she was converted to its teachings was related by Sister Merrill.

Brother Edward Wright of the district presidency conducted the afternoon testimony meeting, and Brother Joseph Orton of the district presidency conducted the morning session, including talks by Sister Ramona W. Cannon, Mission Relief Society president; Elder Bertram T. Willis, Mission Sunday School superintendent; Sister Annie Wild and Brother Wilford Robinson. The Mission M Men Quartette and the District Singing Mothers and Daughters provided vocal music at the sessions, which were preceded by a Saturday evening social.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1936

EDITORIAL

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

“**C**ERTAINLY, I can believe anything that is reasonable, if supported by sufficient evidence,” may be your reply to the above question. This, of course, should be the attitude of a normal mind. But it is often a fact that the normal mind refuses to go to the trouble to examine the evidence for something it does not care to believe. This is particularly true respecting matters of religion, strange as it may appear to a religious person. For such a person rightly regards religion as one of the most vital concerns in life.

There are persons who deny there is a God, though to the vast majority of thinking people the evidence of His existence is overwhelming. Undoubtedly many non-believers have never made a serious study of the matter. They seemingly prefer to scoff than to study. The evidence that Christ rose from the dead is irrefutable, a belief asserted by many able minds. Hence multitudes of people accept the resurrection as a fact. And this fact logically certifies Christ's power to perform the miracles with which He is credited by New Testament writers, the resurrection being by far the most miraculous. Jesus was therefore a super-man, and the spiritual world with which he cooperated was and is a living reality.

Now the nature of reality does not change. Miracles happened then ; they may happen now. There were visitations to earth of heavenly beings in olden days ; there may be such visitations in modern days. There is no known reason why the heavens which were open for revelations to men in biblical days should be closed to men in modern days. In fact, we know that divine revelations and heavenly messengers have come to men in modern days. These facts are strongly certified by human testimony and human experience. The evidence for their truth is readily available to any honest investigator.

One of the most significant facts in the modern religious world was the coming of John the Baptist, a resurrected being, to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery on the bank of the Susquehanna River, May 15, 1829. He came to bestow the Aaronic Priesthood upon these young men. What he did was most significant, for it meant that mortal men were again divinely authorized to act for God. It was a new proof of God's existence, of His love for His children, of life after death, of the resurrection of the dead and of the fact that the heavens are still open to those who pray worthily and in faith to God, our Father in heaven. For John, a messenger of God, came to those two young men in answer to their prayers to convey the information they sought.

Can you believe in the reality of this visitation? You certainly can believe in its possibility if you believe in the Bible, the visit to earth of heavenly messengers being recorded many times in its pages. Further, you can easily believe in the need of such a visitation, the world at that time believing that visits from heaven ended with biblical days. There certainly was and still is a crying need of a more vital religious faith than that which generally prevailed.

But did John the Baptist actually come as certified by Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery? There is a large amount of convincing evidence supporting their claim. This is all woven in the evidence of the divinity of the establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This is the evidence that the Church since 1830 has been freely offering to the world. Its missionaries, carrying this evidence, have been working in Great Britain during almost 100 years. They are still here. They present the evidence in printed and oral form. It is both varied and ample in amount. A hearty invitation to examine it is extended to all interested.—JOSEPH F. MERRILL.

CHRISTIANITY AND WAR

UNDER this title an address was broadcast some time ago by the B. B. C. The speaker was obviously a pacifist, for he asserted "my faith leads me to the conviction that war is such a denial of the Fatherhood of God and such an outrage on the brotherhood of man that as Christians we ought to take no part or lot in it at all." We refer to the address because it contained this sentence: "I cannot believe that God ever faces anyone with a dilemma in which there is only a choice of two evils." The evils referred to related to the Abyssinian situation. The speaker was objecting to the assertion that "we must either acquiesce in an act of aggression or impose sanctions."

We object to the implication of the reverend speaker that God does not leave men free to do as they like. They may be faced with the necessity of choosing between two evils. But this will be due to situations that they themselves have created—they were not of God's making.

Troubles and wars come about because sinful men do not keep God's commandments and must suffer the consequences. And troublous times must continue, according to God's warnings, so long as unrighteousness and wickedness prevail. Repentance is the only thing that will save the world from its woes.—JOSEPH F. MERRILL.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOTICES

THE spring series of district conferences will come to a close Sunday, May 17, with the holding of London District conference in Battersea Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London. Sessions will begin at 11 a.m., 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., and President Joseph F. Merrill and President Joseph J. Cannon will attend. A Saturday evening concert at "Ravenslea," Clapham Common, London will precede the conference.

THIS WEEK IN MORMON HISTORY

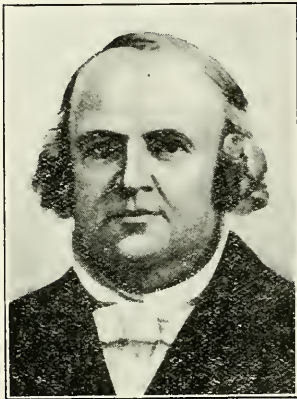
Three Apostles And A Council On Herefordshire Beacon

LET us take our minds back across the sands of time to life in Great Britain in 1840. Three years previous Queen Victoria had begun what was destined to be the longest reign in English history. Steamboats were beginning to puff up the rivers and steam vessels were starting regular journeys across the Atlantic. The railway era was commencing, thanks to the work of a self-educated collier, George Stephenson, and the old stage-coaches were beginning to give way. William Ewart Gladstone was fast

winning a reputation as a brilliant young statesman, and literary lights such as Charles Dickens were beginning to shine.

It was in these history-making surroundings that epochal events were transpiring in the spread of the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ in this land. Eight members of the Council of Twelve Apostles were preaching in Britain and hundreds were accepting their message. Perhaps nowhere were more souls flocking into the fold than in Herefordshire, where a zealous young Apostle, Wilford Woodruff, was labouring among the United Brethren, eventually converting all 600 of them, save one.

This week's story takes us into this region to which Elder Woodruff had been led by the Spirit in March, 1840, for it was here in Herefordshire that the work of arranging for the publica-



WILLARD RICHARDS

Attended the Council on the Beacon.

tion in Britain of the most remarkable book of the century actually began.

Following a conference of the Mission in Preston, April 14-16 of that year, Apostles Brigham Young and Willard Richards (who was ordained an Apostle at the conference) joined Elder Woodruff in Herefordshire. At the conference a decision, agreeable to the counsel of the First Presidency previously obtained, was reached to secure a copyright in England of the Book of Mormon.

Yet the problem of financing the printing remained. It must be remembered that many of the Apostles, if not all, had come to these shores without purse or scrip.

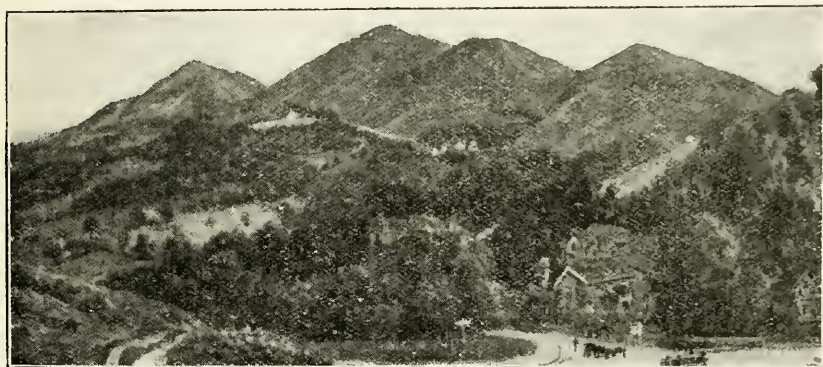
But by **May 20**, 1840 the problem had been solved. The hand of the Lord had moved, and funds had been provided. With thankful hearts, Elders Young, Woodruff and Richards repaired on that date to the top of Herefordshire Beacon, one of the highest peaks in the vicinity, to hold council regarding the first publication in Britain of the Book of Mormon. Herefordshire Beacon is a picturesque point in the low range of shrub-dappled

Malvern Hills rising up from the verdant valley cut out by the silvery Severn, in southeastern England. Crowning the Beacon are the ruins of an ancient fortress said to have been built by the ancient Britons of Siluria and destroyed by the invading Romans.

The results of that solemn council on Herefordshire Beacon are laconically recorded in Elder Young's journal :

Brothers Woodruff, Richards and myself went on top of the Herefordshire Beacon, where, after prayer, we held a council and agreed, that since we had obtained £250 from Brother John Benbow, and £100 from Brother Kingston towards publishing the Book of Mormon and Hymn Book, I should repair immediately to Manchester and join the brethren appointed with me as a committee, and publish 3,000 copies of the Hymn Book without delay. It was also voted that the same committee publish 5,000 copies of the Book of Mormon, with an index affixed. I started for Manchester (accompanied by Elder Kingston a short distance) and went to Wolverhampton.

Subsequently the decision of the "Beacon Council" was ap-



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THE MALVERN HILLS—From a painting by A. R. QUINTON.

"The hearts of those missionaries as they held council in the Malvern Hills must have beat with gladness . . ."

proved by the other brethren, and the work of printing the Book of Mormon in Britain was on its way.

The hearts of those missionaries as they held council in the Malvern Hills must have beat with gladness and eagerness in realizing that the work of printing the Book in this land was to begin, for all three of them had previously been introduced to the Gospel and converted through its pages. Brigham Young, a cabinet maker, occasioned on the Book when it was brought into his neighbourhood in Mendon, New York, by Elder Samuel H. Smith, the Prophet's brother, in the Spring of 1830. Brigham studied its contents for two years and became convinced of its divinity. Wilford Woodruff, a miller, heard Elder Zora Pulpispher bear his testimony concerning the Book of Mormon, in a schoolhouse in Richland, New York, eagerly read it after the meeting and was baptized a day or two later. While practising medicine in Boston, Dr. Richards in 1835 happened upon a copy left with a cousin by Brigham Young. After reading less than a

half page of its contents, Dr. Richards remarked: "God or the devil has had a hand in that book, for man never wrote it." Reading it through twice in about ten days, he gained a testimony, sold his possessions, moved westward to Kirtland, Ohio, to join the saints.

But to return to the council on the Beacon's brow. Most of the money donated for printing, it will be noted, came from a John Benbow. There is a parallel between the financing of the first British edition of the Book and that of the original printing in New York a decade before. The Prophet Joseph Smith in 1827 was led to Martin Harris, a farmer in western New York, and subsequently Harris supplied £600 to aid in publishing in 1830 the first edition of the Book whose contents had been translated by the Prophet from the gold plates. In Britain, Wilford Woodruff was led from Staffordshire south to an outpost farm in Herefordshire. Why he went there, there is but one explanation—he was led by the Spirit. John Benbow was owner of this out-of-the-way farmstead. Less than three months before May 20 he met Wilford Woodruff for the first time. Now he was contributing £250 toward printing the Book in Britain. Certainly these incidents are convincing evidence that the Book of Mormon was divine and that the Lord desired its tidings be spread throughout the world.

Brigham Young took an active part in the printing of the Book of Mormon in Britain and in addition proof-read the Hymn Book. Writing in Liverpool January 21, 1841, he reported the completion of the first edition of the Book in Britain.

Today the Book of Mormon continues to remain a deep spring of spiritual comfort and knowledge to thousands who drink from its inspired contents. To the world, it remains an enigma. More than 100,000 native Britons have accepted its bold, yet well attested, claims. Britain, too, is furnishing all the time increasing evidence of its authenticity. Fresh off the press is the new book, *Seven Claims of the Book of Mormon*, prepared in London by Apostle John A. Widtsoe and Elder Franklin S. Harris Jr. It presents a veritable vault of evidence, gleaned in the British Museum, in support of the assertions of the Book.

Indeed, the story of its first printing in Britain, of the Council on Herefordshire Beacon and of John Benbow's conversion and contribution are but a few of the multitude of testimonies certifying the divinity of the Book of Mormon.

Other Anniversaries This Week

May 15, 1844—Birth at Aalborg, Denmark of President Anthon H. Lund. Ordained an Apostle October 7, 1889, he was sustained first counsellor in the First Presidency April 7, 1910 and died in Salt Lake City March 2, 1921.

May 15, 1829—The Aaronic Priesthood was restored by resurrected John the Baptist, who conferred its authority upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery near Harmony, Pennsylvania (see page 310).

May 15, 1817—Birth in Londonderry, Ireland of Robert Erving

Baird, one of the original company of Pioneers entering Salt Lake Valley.

May 17, 1884—President John Taylor dedicated the Temple in Logan, Utah.

May 18, 1783—Birth of Martin Harris, one of the Three Witnesses to the Book of Mormon, in Easttown, Saratoga County, New York.

May 18, 1843—In a conversation with Stephen A. Douglas, the Prophet Joseph Smith told the American statesman that he would aspire to the Presidency of the United States, but that if he ever turned his hand against the Church, he would feel the weight of the Almighty upon him. That prophecy was literally fulfilled years later.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Laudatory comments continue to come to the Church regarding its new chapel and organ recitals in Washington, D. C. (*Star* May 30, 1935). By General Conference time Elder Edward P. Kimball had given 729 organ recitals since being called on a mission to America's capital in the fall of 1933. More than 36,000 visitors, 99 per cent of them non-members, had attended them. Recently 700 women students of the University of Maryland heard the service. A minister visiting the chapel said: "I find things I consider excellent being done more excellently by the Latter-day Saints than we can do ourselves." The Church has the largest choir in the District of Columbia, seat of the United States Government. Elder Kimball, who is also secretary of Washington's Rotary, has given one hundred recitals over a network of southeastern America radio stations, bringing Mormonism to millions of ears both by melody and mouth.

Mormon missionaries presented the prize winning programme before the Lions Club of San Diego, California for the year 1935. As a token of appreciation of the club, Mr. Antoine Samuelson, its programme chairman, received a beautiful electric clock for furnishing the contribution. The winning programme, given by Elders Royal J. Hansen and Wallace King, consisted of 150 stereoptic views of archeological discoveries in North and South America, evidences of

the authenticity of the Book of Mormon. In a year's time Elder Hansen has given the lecture before 50,000 people, at 400 lectures.

President of the Hawaiian Temple since its dedication by President Heber J. Grant November 27, 1919, Elder William M. Waddoups has been released by the First Presidency to become president of the Samoan Mission. He will succeed President William G. Sears, who has presided over the Mission for three years. The Gospel was first preached in the palmy Navigator Islands, or Samoa, in the southern Pacific, by Elder Joseph Dean June 18, 1838, and the first converts were baptized seven days later.

Sculpture entitled "The Tragedy of Winter Quarters" (*Star* cover, March 19) by Avarad Fairbanks, Mormon artist, is achieving wide recognition in America. Originally created to adorn the Latter-day Saint display in the Hall of Religion at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago (1933-34), the sculpture was recently exhibited in the Architectural League show in New York City. There it attracted the eye of the editor of *Arts and Decoration*, and will appear in that magazine soon. Avarad Fairbanks is now completing this theme in heroic size for erection in the Mormon Pioneer cemetery at Florence, Nebraska, where it will commemorate the struggle of the saints who succumbed during the severe winters on that frontier and were buried at Winter Quarters.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

Birds—A monument to the 20,000 carrier pigeons which lost their lives during the World War was unveiled in Lille, France on Easter Monday by the French generalissimo, General Gamelin. In Temple Square at Salt Lake City is a beautiful bird monument—to the seagull, flocks of which saved the Mormon Pioneer crops in 1848 in answer to prayer (*Star*, Oct. 24).

Genealogy—On the editorial page of London's *Daily Telegraph* (400,000 circulation) appeared an inter-

esting article April 18. An extract reads: "President Roosevelt has had a family tree of magnificent proportions sent to him from Salt Lake City by Mr. Karl Weiss, a genealogical director of the Latter-day Saint Church. If he ever finds time to study it he will discover that he is related—according to Mr. Weiss—to Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, and can claim among his ancestors William the Conqueror, Charlemagne and Alfred the Great."

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Arrivals—Arriving on the s.s. *Manhattan* April 28, new travelling elders were assigned to the following districts: Elder De Los A. Rowe (McCammion, Idaho), London, and Elders Frank A. Martin (San Francisco, California), O. Clifford Merrill (Safford, Arizona), Wilford P. Jordan (San Jose, California) and Edwin H. Lauber (Salt Lake City, Utah) all Nottingham.

Appointments—Elders Ralph W. Hardy and David C. Thomas were named May 1 as members of the British Mission Sunday School Board.

Doings in the Districts: Birmingham—Branch President William G. Bennett of Northampton Branch was guest speaker at Northampton Toc H Club Wednesday, May 13. His invitation to address the group followed a talk before the Club by Elder Brigham S. Young Wednesday, April 22. His text was "The Persecution and Early History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."

Sheffield—Members of Sheffield Branch Building Fund committee were hosts at a "Mystery Ramble" Easter Monday. Rusticating in the countryside in the morning, attending a cinema in the afternoon, the group of thirty climaxed the day with refreshments and games at

the home of Sister Martha Smith. President Joseph J. Cannon and Supervising Elder Vernon A. Cooley of Manchester District were special guests. Brother George A. Stubbs was in charge.

Proceeds from a Sunday School dance in Sheffield Branch hall Saturday, April 18, went toward a fund for a children's seaside holiday trip.

Branch President Joseph T. Quinney conducted the evening sessions of Rawmarsh Branch conference in the branch hall recently. Speakers were District President George H. Bailey, Elder Willard L. Fullmer and Brothers John Ianson-Holton Jr. and George Hamstead. Superintendent Peter Hamstead of the Sunday School conducted the afternoon meeting, including a recitation by Sister Muriel Ianson-Holton, talks by President Bailey, Brothers Alvin Ianson-Holton, Peter Hamstead and Sister Elsie M. Quinney and a sketch by President and Sister Quinney.

Rawmarsh Sunday School and Primary combined to present a social in the branch rooms recently. After "tea," games and a programme completed the evening. Superintendent Peter Hamstead of the Sunday School and Sister Mary Ianson-Holton Jr., Primary president, planned the affair.

Irish—A grand variety entertainment was given under the auspices of Belfast Branch Sunday School in Arcade Building, Belfast, Friday, April 10. Superintendent William Belshaw was in charge and Sister Alice C. Henderson conducted. Short talks were given by Supervising Elder Dudley M. Leavitt and Elder Ralph E. Baddley, and musical numbers were contributed by Elder Leavitt, Brother Joseph Ditty and John J. Brownlee, Mr. Tom Nelson and Mr. H. Ralston and Sisters Ruby Gillan and Jean B. Cussans and the Primary children.

Easter Sunday, April 12, was the date of the annual Sunday School conference in Belfast Branch hall, conducted by Superintendent William Belshaw. In the morning, numbers were provided by representatives of the various departments, and evening speakers were Supervising Elder Dudley M. Leavitt, Elder Ralph E. Baddley, Brother Theodore H. Fulton and Sisters Ruby Gillan and Maureen E. Dodds. Sisters Gillan and Jean B. Cussans furnished a musical number.

Leeds—Bradford M Men baseball team defeated Thornbury in a friendly game at Thornbury Saturday, April 11.

A dance, at which the Thornbury players were special guests, followed in Westgate Hall, Bradford, Brother J. C. Harrison acting as master of ceremonies.

A Grand Variety Concert in aid of the Branch Building Fund was presented in Bradford Branch hall Saturday evening, April 25, under the direction of Brother George Pitts. Artistes were "Wee Gordon," 14-year-old accordionist prodigy; Mr. Ernest Berry, magician; Brother Fred Laycock of Batley Branch, vocal soloist; Brother Frank Holroyd, pianist, and acrobatic and dancing pupils of Miss Leonora Kershaw. Ninety guests attended.

Bradford Branch M Men have joined the Leeds Amateur Baseball League, having won both of their pre-season games.

President Joseph J. Cannon was honoured guest at Bradford Branch Gleaner banquet in the branch hall recently, Brother

Harbingers!

"FUTURE events cast their shadows before." An olive branch in the dove's beak indicated to Noah that land was in sight; a council of the justiciar in St. Albans in 1213 foreshadowed the *Magna Charta* two years later, and the speeches on the mail in Parliament by Sir Rowland Hill preceded the inception of Britain's penny postal system in 1837.



Gleaner and Bee-Hive Cups

Current events presage a joyful Mission M. I. A. Conference at Whitsuntide in Sir Rowland's birth-place town—Kidderminster in Worcestershire. Already Elder M. Neff Smart, Mission Y. M. M. I. A. executive secretary, has received more than 100 requests for lodging accommodations. The acquisition of two new silver loving cups (see cut) for the Bee-Hive and Gleaner competitions (*Star* Feb. 13) predicts enthusiasm in these new features of the convention. Both cups will remain in the permanent possession of the winning districts. Sheffield District M Men are preparing to defend the Russell Challenge Cup in the track and field tournament.

Saints and friends are reminded that the Kidderminster Poetry Contest closes **May 23**. All contributions should be addressed to Kidderminster Poetry Contest, 5 Gordon Square, London W. C. 1. The winner will be guest at the Conference of British M. I. A. boards and the *Millennial Star*, with free lodgings and meals.

was honoured guest at Bradford Branch Gleaner banquet in the branch hall recently, Brother

George Pitts acting as master of ceremonies at games which followed. Elder J. Sterling Astin was toastmaster and Sister Eleanor Metcalfe was hostess.

Liverpool—Burnley and Nelson branches joined for a Good Friday ramble to historic Pendle Hill, famous as a "haunt of medieval Lancashire witches."

The Y. M. M. I. A. sponsored a social in Burnley Branch hall Saturday, April 4, with Brother Edwin R. Astin in charge. A concert and games comprised the evening's entertainment.

An investigators' meeting was held in Burnley Branch Sunday, April 12, with Elders Clark King Dale L. Barton as speakers and and Sisters Emily Astin, Emma Hardy, Doris and Lillian Owens as vocalists. A poem was recited by Sister Jean Moore.

Norwich—Lowestoft Branch Re-

lief Society has been reorganized, with Sister Ivy Upson, president, and Sisters Hilda V. Cook and Jenima M. Stone as first and second counsellors, respectively. They were sustained Sunday, April 19.

Branch President Christopher Fairhead conducted Thurlton Branch conference in the branch rooms recently, with Supervising Elder Rex A. Skidmore, District President Alfred Burrell and Brother John F. Cook of the district presidency as speakers. Sisters Agnes E. Ives and Mildred E. Jennis provided vocal numbers.

Manchester—Following the weekly Priesthood and Relief Society lessons Wednesday evening, April 23, a social was held in Oldham Branch hall under the supervision of President Elizabeth M. Pearce of the Relief Society and her first counsellor, Sister Sarah B. Kershaw. Delicious refreshments climaxed the evening.

DEATHS

FLINT—Muriel Elizabeth Flint, infant daughter of Mr. Leslie Flint and Sister Mary Lilian Carlin Flint of Eastwood Branch, passed away Friday, April 10.

STREET—Mr. Benjamin Street, 71,

for many years a friend of the Church, passed away March 23 at Stapleford, Nottingham. He was the father of Sister Rhoda M. E. Tinson of Nottingham Branch. Memorial services were held in Branch hall Sunday, April 5.

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